THE WORLD'S MOST WAY PAST COOL COMIC!
Archie
ADVENTURE SERIES
NO.74 SEPT.
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SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG™
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
ABOVE AND BEYOND
SPAGHARO RAY '99

THE PLANET MOBIUS WAS ONCE A VIRTUAL PARADISE UNTIL IT WAS CONQUERED BY THE EVIL DOCTOR ROBOTNIK! HIS TECHNOLOGICAL TYRANNY WOULD HAVE CONTINUED IF NOT FOR A HEROIC GROUP OF FREEDOM FIGHTERS WHO BANDED TOGETHER AND RESTORED ORDER TO THE KINGDOM OF ACORN! THE BRAVEST AMONG THEM IS A BLUE STREAK FILLED WITH THE MOST ATTITUDE GOING AROUND - - AND, WITHOUT A DOUBT, HE IS THE FASTEST THING ALIVE!
ARCHIE COMICS AND SEGA PRESENT... SONIC THE HEDGEHOG!

IN THE ROYAL THRONE ROOM OF KING MAXIMILLIAN ACORN...

DON'T CALL IT A COME BACK!

KNOTHOLE'S GONE.

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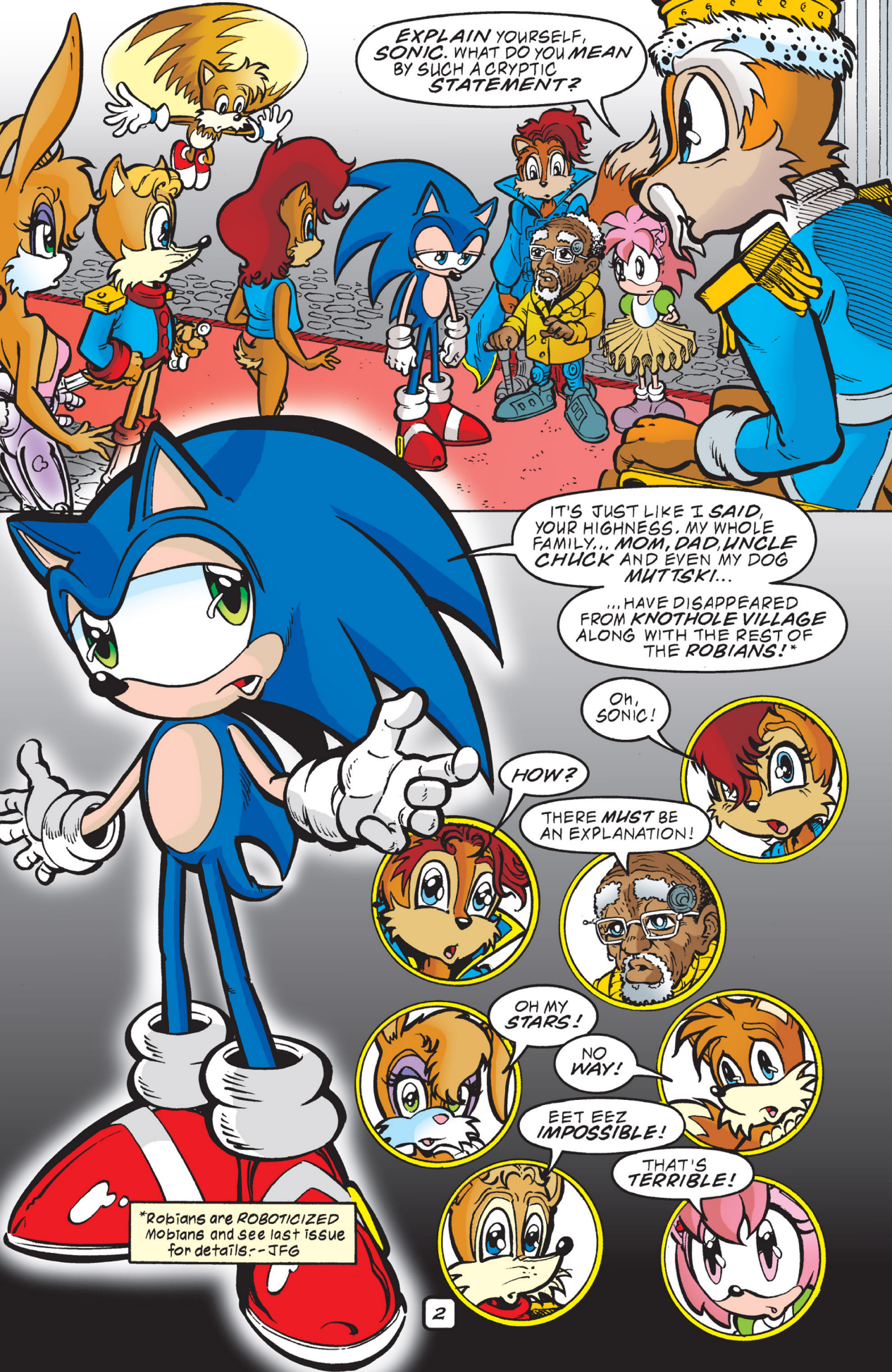
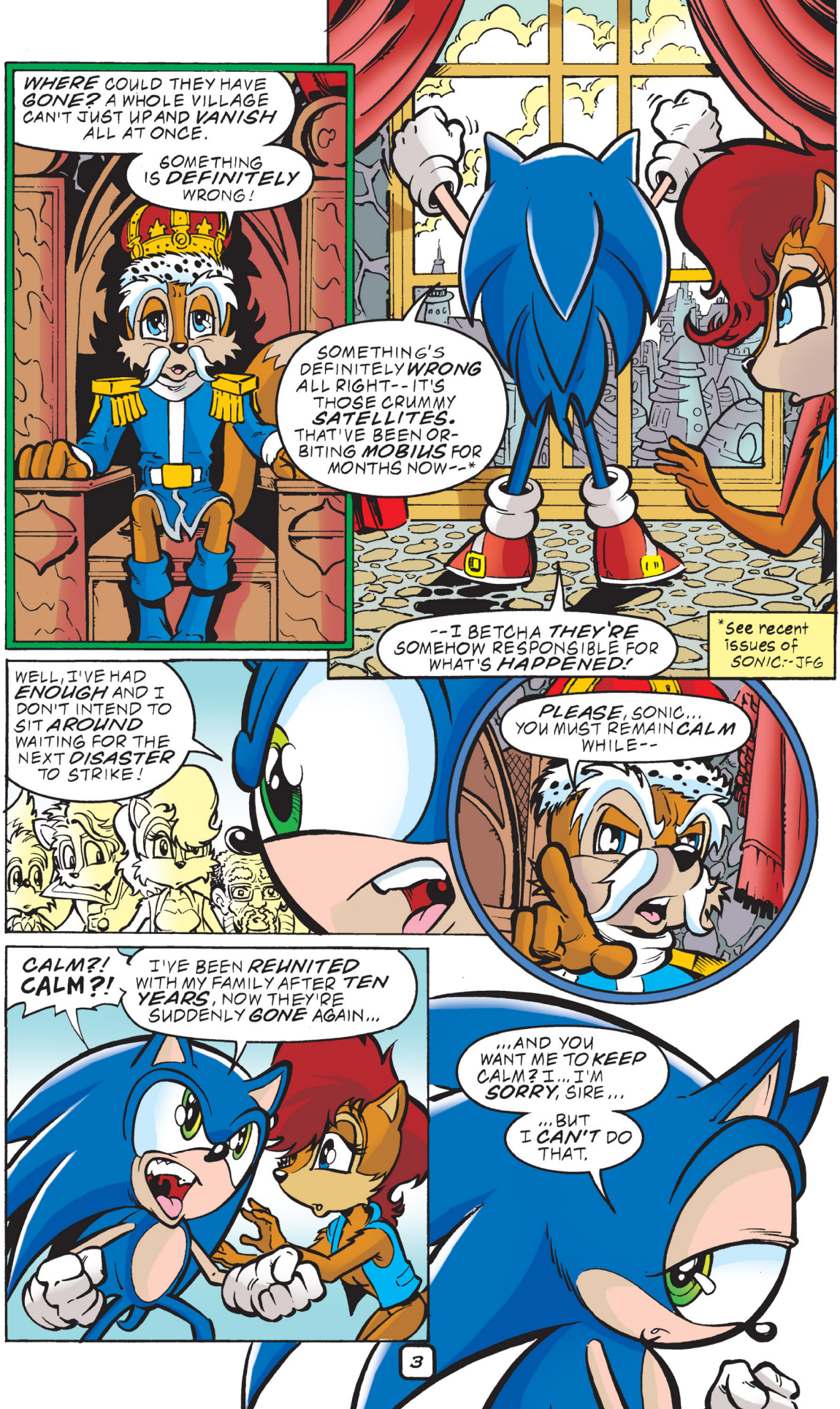
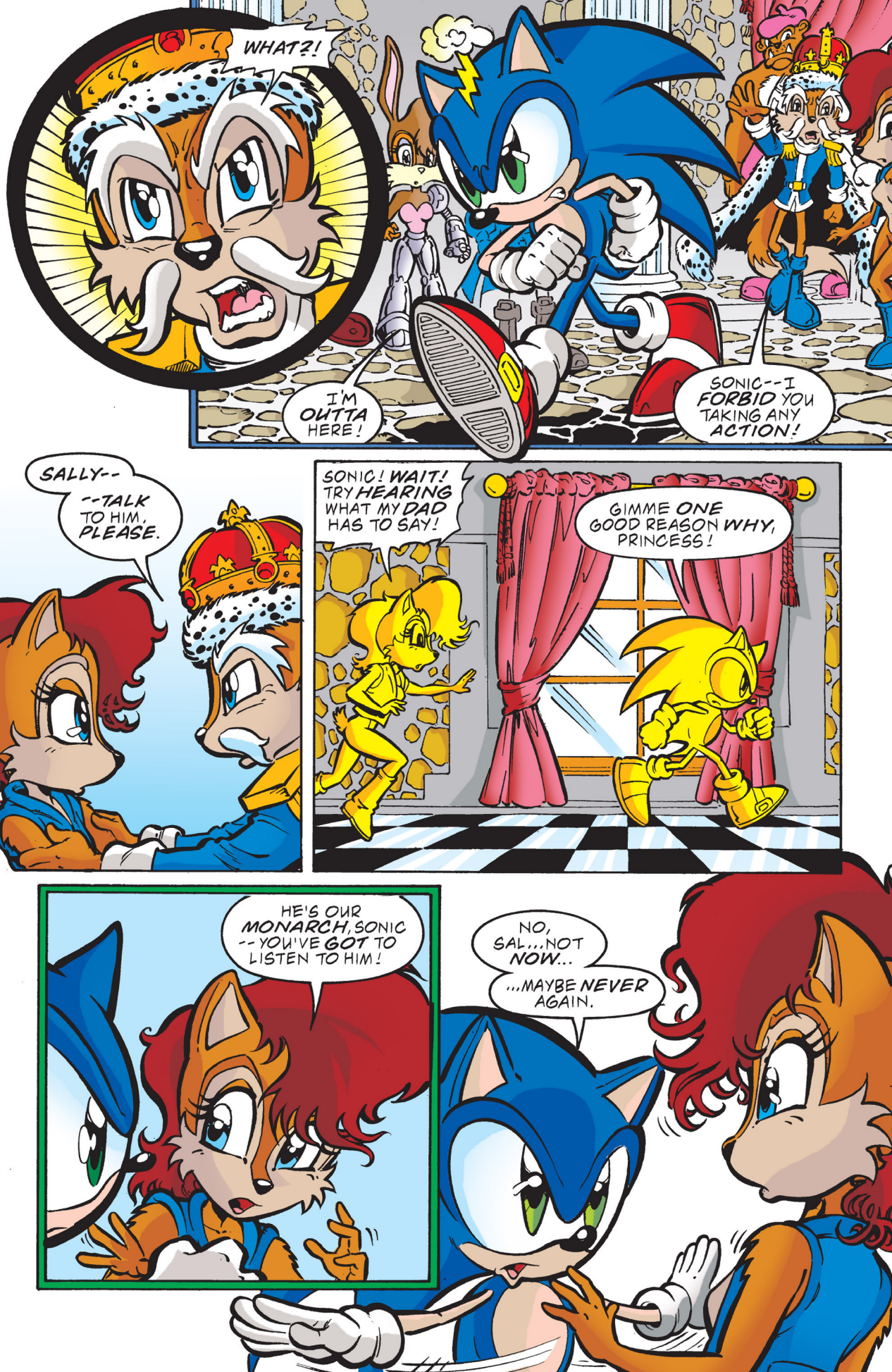
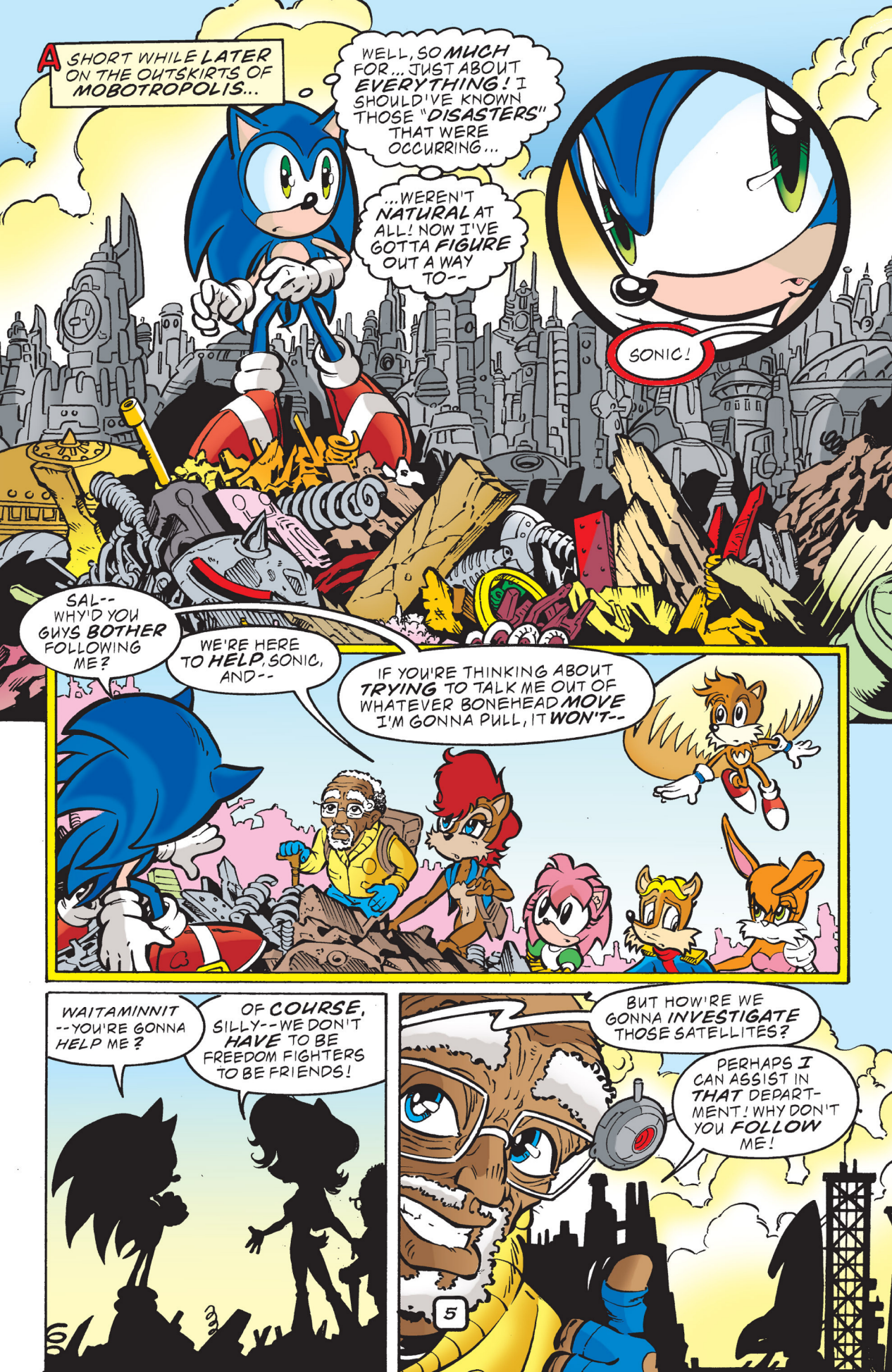
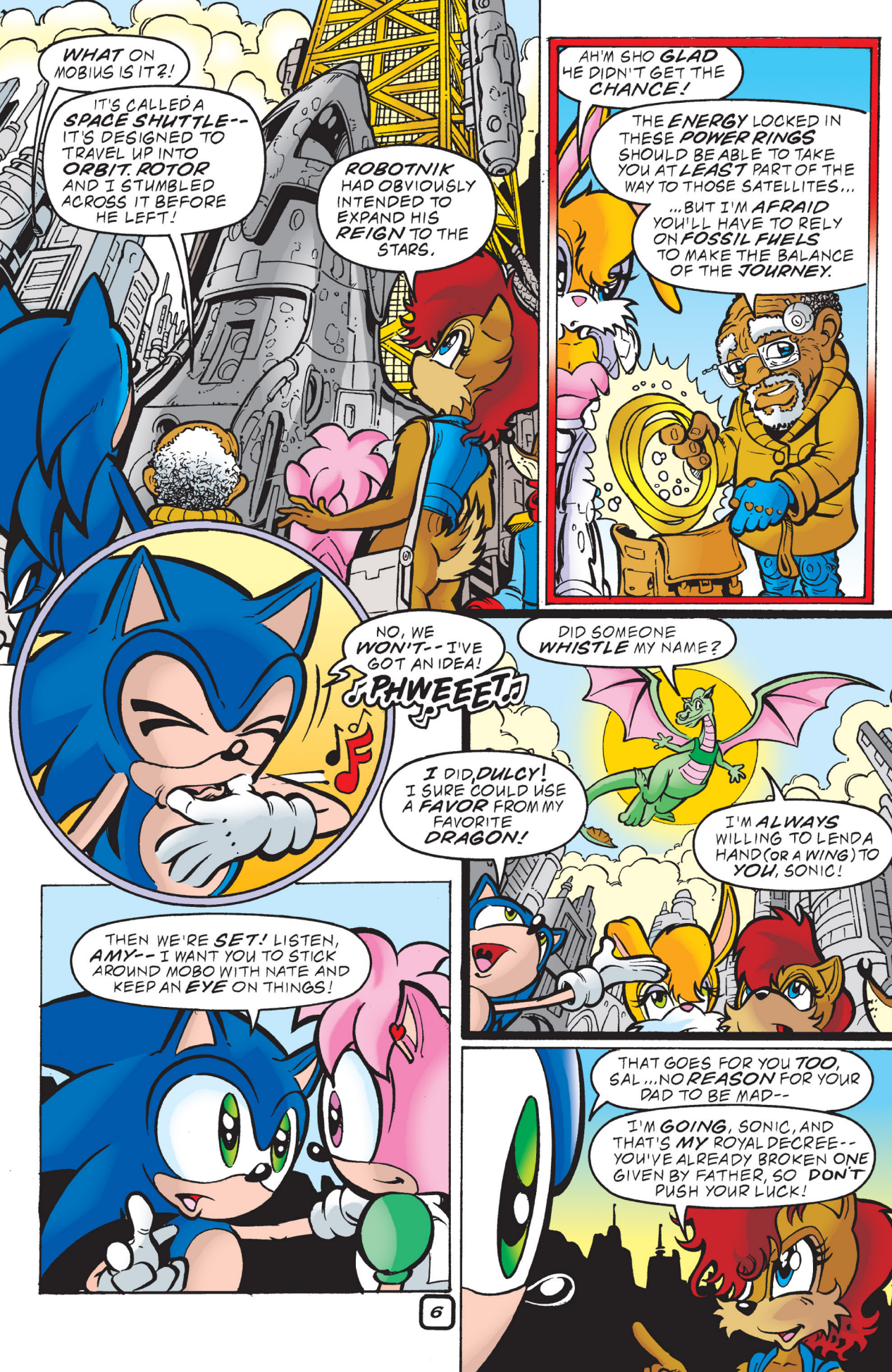
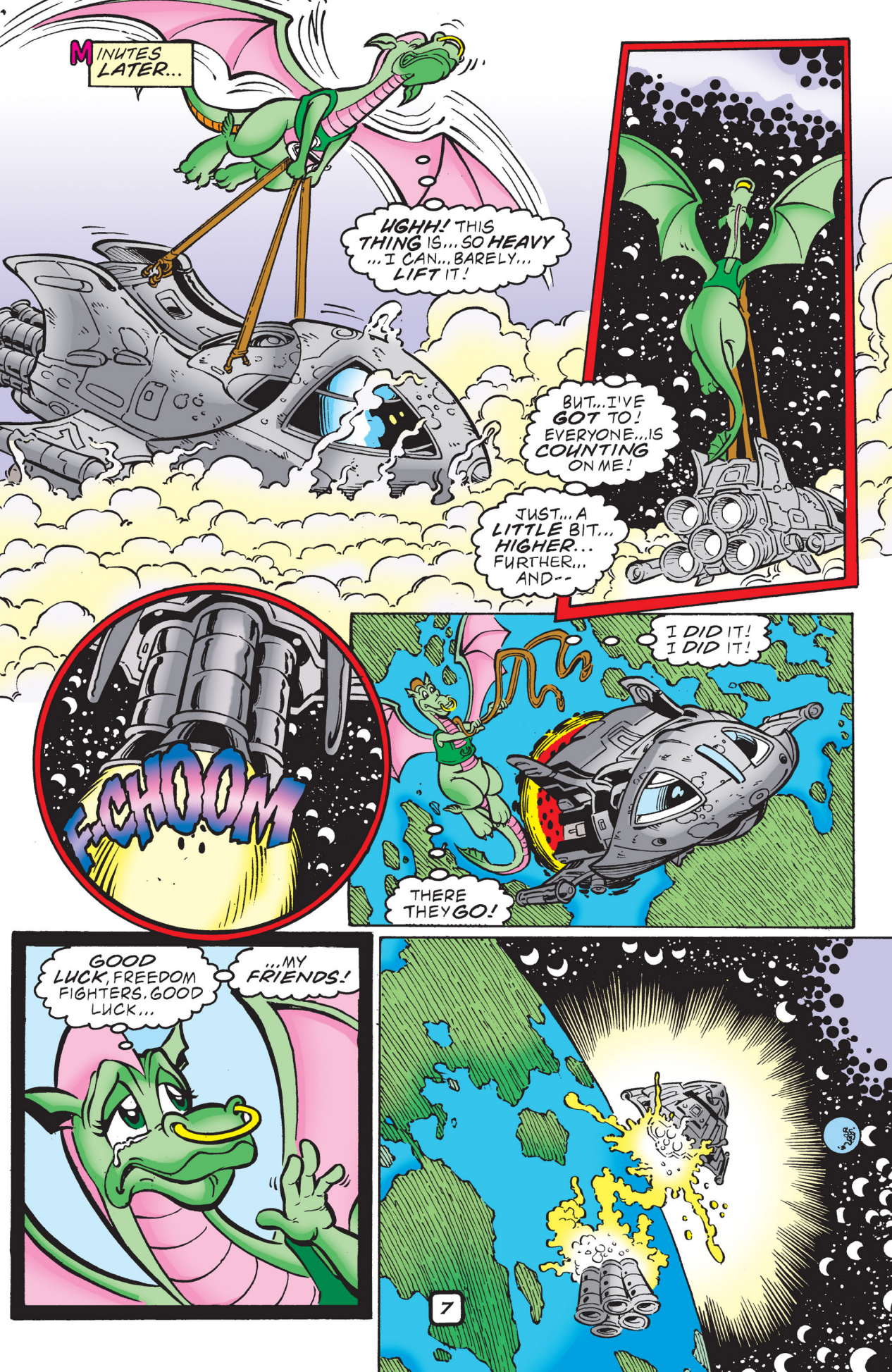

EXPLAIN YOURSELF, SONIC. WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY SUCH A CRYPTIC STATEMENT?
IT'S JUST LIKE I SAID, YOUR HIGHNESS. MY WHOLE FAMILY... MOM, DAD, UNCLE CHUCK AND EVEN MY DOG MUTTSKI...
...HAVE DISAPPEARED FROM KNOTHOLE VILLAGE ALONG WITH THE REST OF THE ROBIANS!*
Oh, SONIC!
HOW?
THERE MUST BE AN EXPLANATION!
OH MY STARS!
NO WAY!
EET EEZ IMPOSSIBLE!
THAT'S TERRIBLE!
*Robians are ROBOTICIZED Mobians and see last issue for details:--JFG

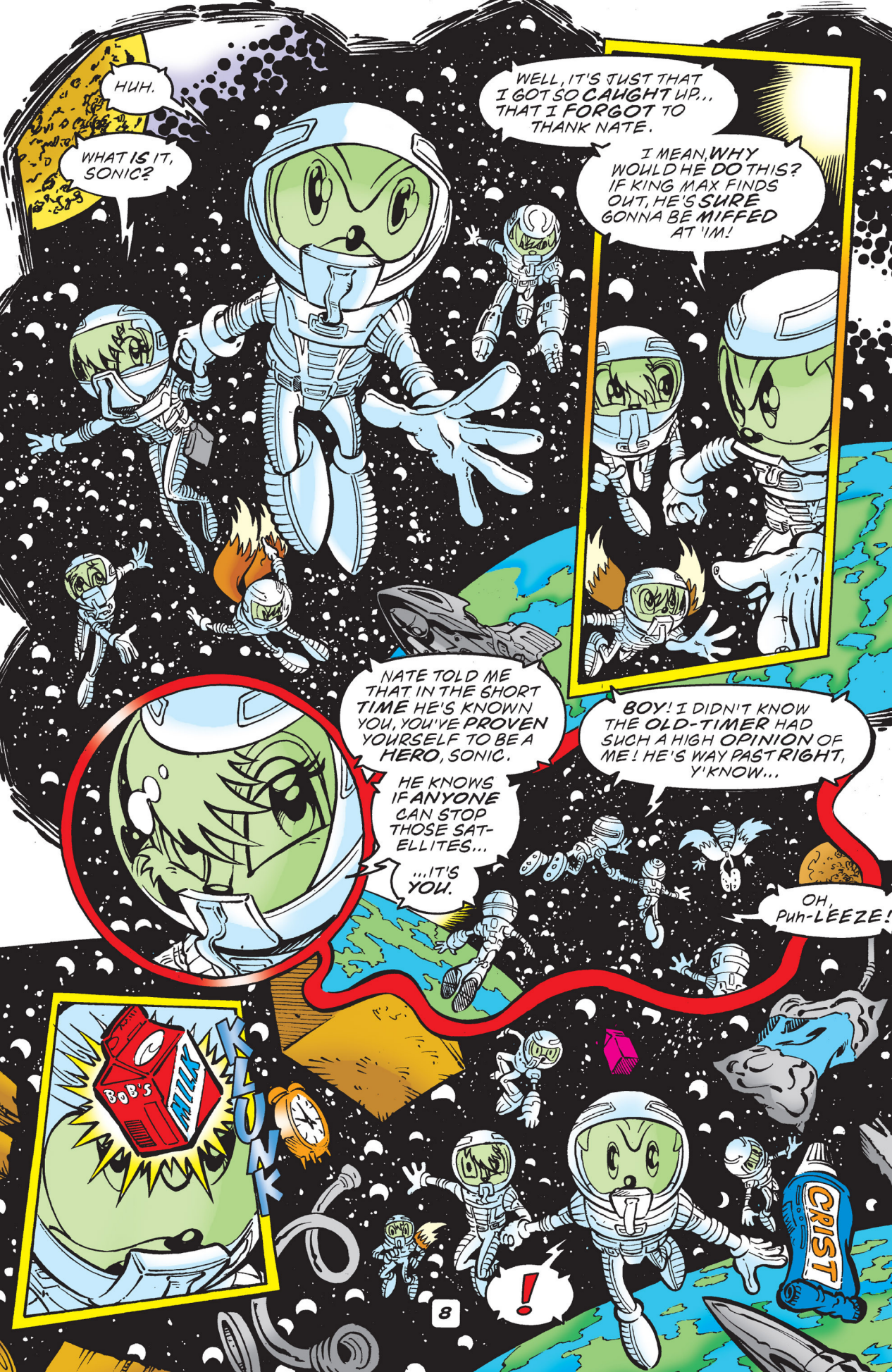

WHERE COULD THEY HAVE GONE? A WHOLE VILLAGE CAN'T JUST UP AND VANISH ALL AT ONCE.
SOMETHING IS DEFINITELY WRONG!
SOMETHING'S DEFINITELY WRONG ALL RIGHT--IT'S THOSE CRUMMY SATELLITES. THAT'VE BEEN ORBITING MOBIUS FOR MONTHS NOW--*
--I BETCHA THEY'RE SOMEHOW RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT'S HAPPENED!
*See recent issues of SONIC.--JFG
WELL, I'VE HAD ENOUGH AND I DON'T INTEND TO SIT AROUND WAITING FOR THE NEXT DISASTER TO STRIKE!
PLEASE, SONIC... YOU MUST REMAIN CALM WHILE--
CALM?! CALM?!
I'VE BEEN REUNITED WITH MY FAMILY AFTER TEN YEARS, NOW THEY'RE SUDDENLY GONE AGAIN...
...AND YOU WANT ME TO KEEP CALM? I... I'M SORRY, SIRE...
...BUT I CAN'T DO THAT.

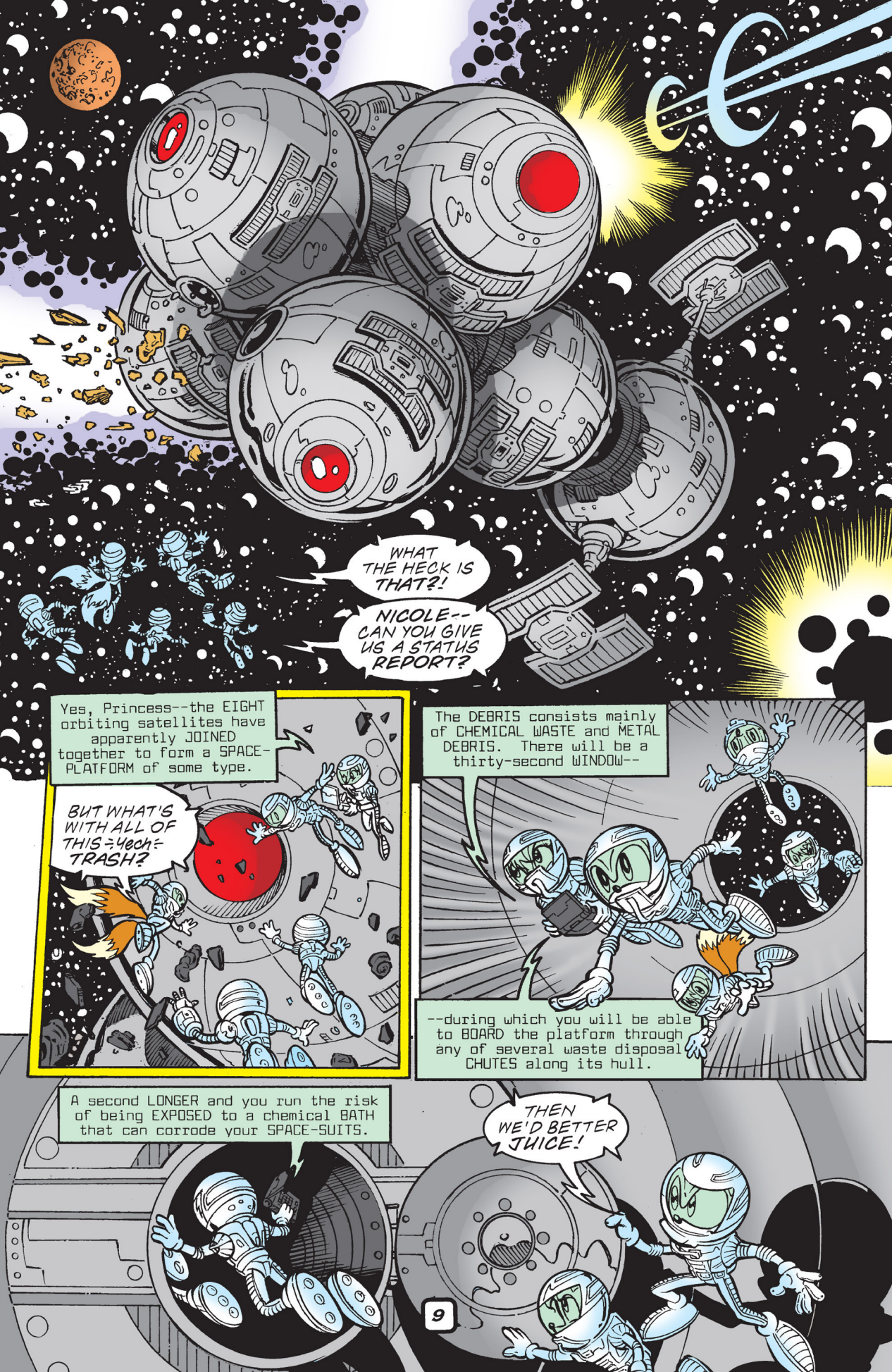

WHAT?!
I'M OUTTA HERE!
SONIC--I FORBID YOU TAKING ANY ACTION!
SALLY--
--TALK TO HIM, PLEASE.
SONIC! WAIT! TRY HEARING WHAT MY DAD HAS TO SAY!
GIMME ONE GOOD REASON WHY, PRINCESS!
HE'S OUR MONARCH, SONIC -- YOU'VE GOT TO LISTEN TO HIM!
NO, SAL...NOT NOW...
...MAYBE NEVER AGAIN.

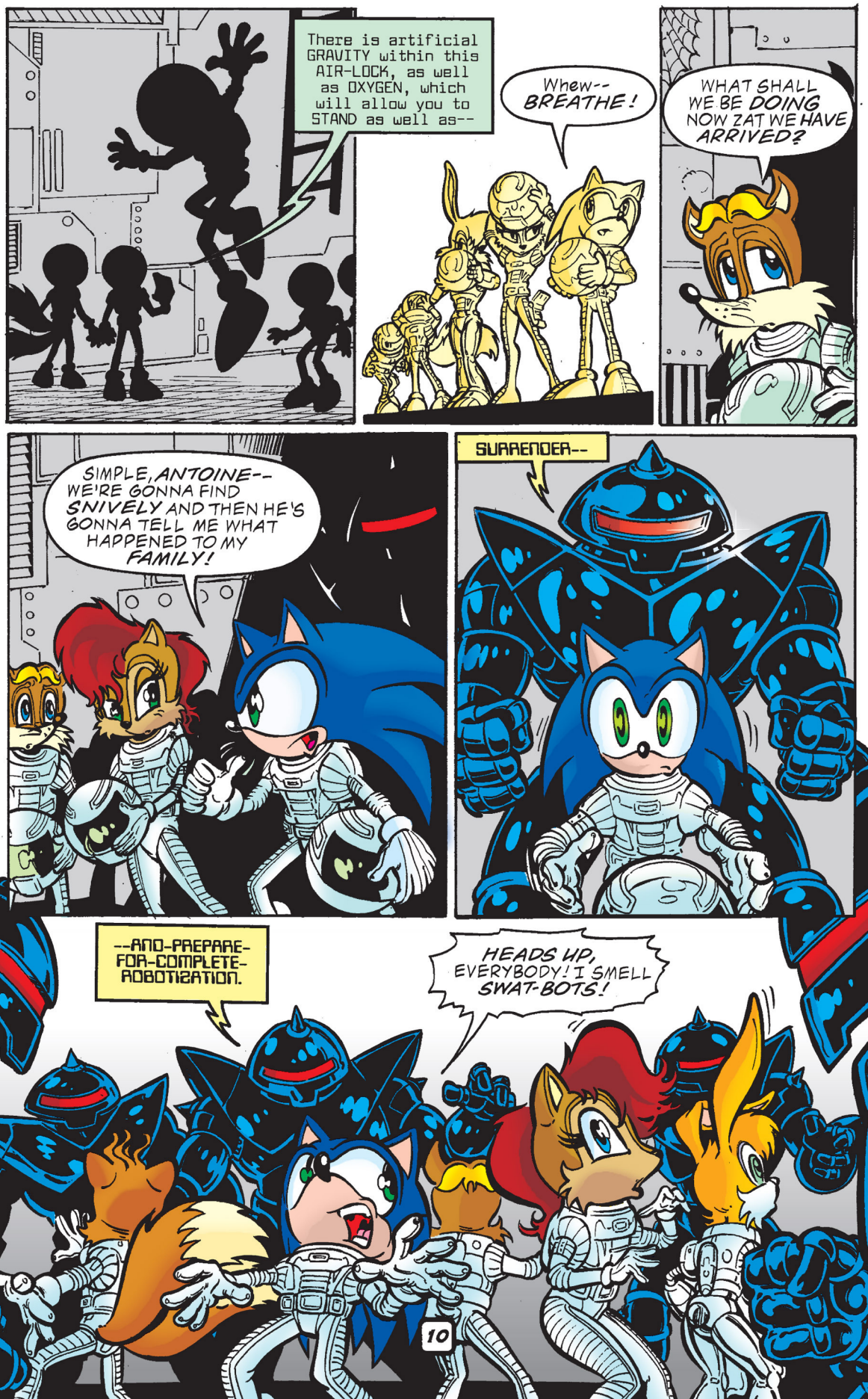

A SHORT WHILE LATER ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF MOBOTROPOLIS...
WELL, SO MUCH FOR... JUST ABOUT EVERYTHING! I SHOULD'VE KNOWN THOSE "DISASTERS" THAT WERE OCCURRING...
...WEREN'T NATURAL AT ALL! NOW I'VE GOTTA FIGURE OUT A WAY TO--
SONIC!
SAL-- WHY'D YOU GUYS BOTHER FOLLOWING ME?
WE'RE HERE TO HELP, SONIC, AND--
IF YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT TRYING TO TALK ME OUT OF WHATEVER BONEHEAD MOVE I'M GONNA PULL, IT WON'T--
WAITAMINNIT --YOU'RE GONNA HELP ME?
OF COURSE, SILLY--WE DON'T HAVE TO BE FREEDOM FIGHTERS TO BE FRIENDS!
BUT HOW'RE WE GONNA INVESTIGATE THOSE SATELLITES?
PERHAPS I CAN ASSIST IN THAT DEPARTMENT! WHY DON'T YOU FOLLOW ME!
5

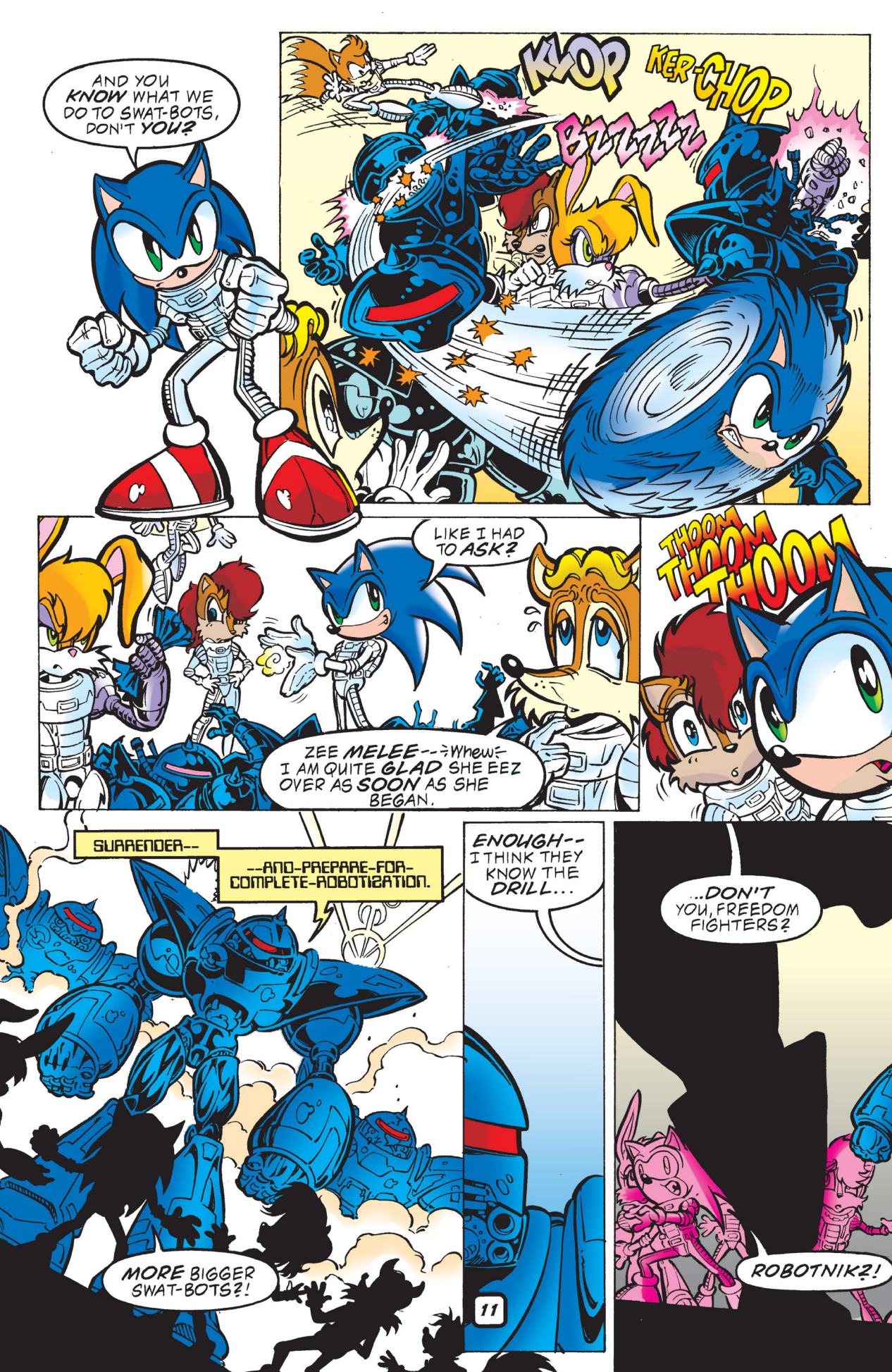

WHAT ON MOBIUS IS IT?!
IT'S CALLED A SPACE SHUTTLE-- IT'S DESIGNED TO TRAVEL UP INTO ORBIT. ROTOR AND I STUMBLED ACROSS IT BEFORE HE LEFT!
ROBOTNIK HAD OBVIOUSLY INTENDED TO EXPAND HIS REIGN TO THE STARS.
AH'M SHO GLAD HE DIDN'T GET THE CHANCE!
THE ENERGY LOCKED IN THESE POWER RINGS SHOULD BE ABLE TO TAKE YOU AT LEAST PART OF THE WAY TO THOSE SATELLITES...
...BUT I'M AFRAID YOU'LL HAVE TO RELY ON FOSSIL FUELS TO MAKE THE BALANCE OF THE JOURNEY.
NO, WE WON'T-- I'VE GOT AN IDEA!
♪PHWEEET♪
DID SOMEONE WHISTLE MY NAME?
I DID, DULCY! I SURE COULD USE A FAVOR FROM MY FAVORITE DRAGON!
I'M ALWAYS WILLING TO LEND A HAND (OR A WING) TO YOU, SONIC!
THEN WE'RE SET! LISTEN, AMY-- I WANT YOU TO STICK AROUND MOBO WITH NATE AND KEEP AN EYE ON THINGS!
THAT GOES FOR YOU TOO, SAL...NO REASON FOR YOUR DAD TO BE MAD--
I'M GOING, SONIC, AND THAT'S MY ROYAL DECREE-- YOU'VE ALREADY BROKEN ONE GIVEN BY FATHER, SO DON'T PUSH YOUR LUCK!


MINUTES LATER...
UGHH! THIS THING IS... SO HEAVY ...I CAN... BARELY... LIFT IT!
BUT... I'VE GOT TO! EVERYONE... IS COUNTING ON ME!
JUST... A LITTLE BIT... HIGHER... FURTHER... AND--
I DID IT! I DID IT!
THERE THEY GO!
F-CHOOM
GOOD LUCK, FREEDOM FIGHTERS, GOOD LUCK...
...MY FRIENDS!
7

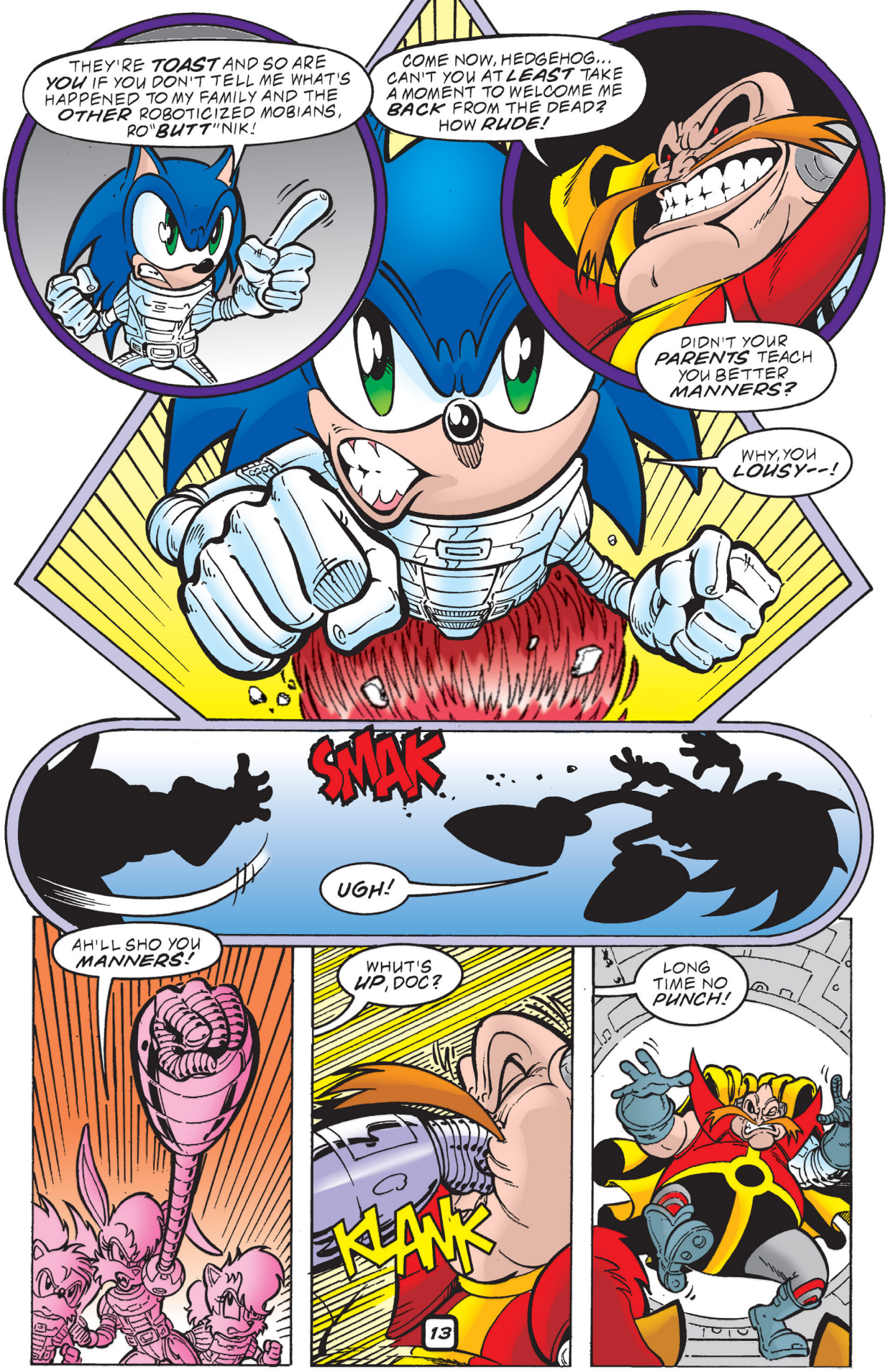

HUH.
WHAT IS IT, SONIC?
WELL, IT'S JUST THAT I GOT SO CAUGHT UP... THAT I FORGOT TO THANK NATE.
I MEAN, WHY WOULD HE DO THIS? IF KING MAX FINDS OUT, HE'S SURE GONNA BE MIFFED AT 'IM!
NATE TOLD ME THAT IN THE SHORT TIME HE'S KNOWN YOU, YOU'VE PROVEN YOURSELF TO BE A HERO, SONIC.
HE KNOWS IF ANYONE CAN STOP THOSE SAT-ELLITES...
...IT'S YOU.
BOY! I DIDN'T KNOW THE OLD-TIMER HAD SUCH A HIGH OPINION OF ME! HE'S WAY PAST RIGHT, Y'KNOW...
OH, PUH-LEEZE!
BOB'S MILK
KLUNK
CRIST
!

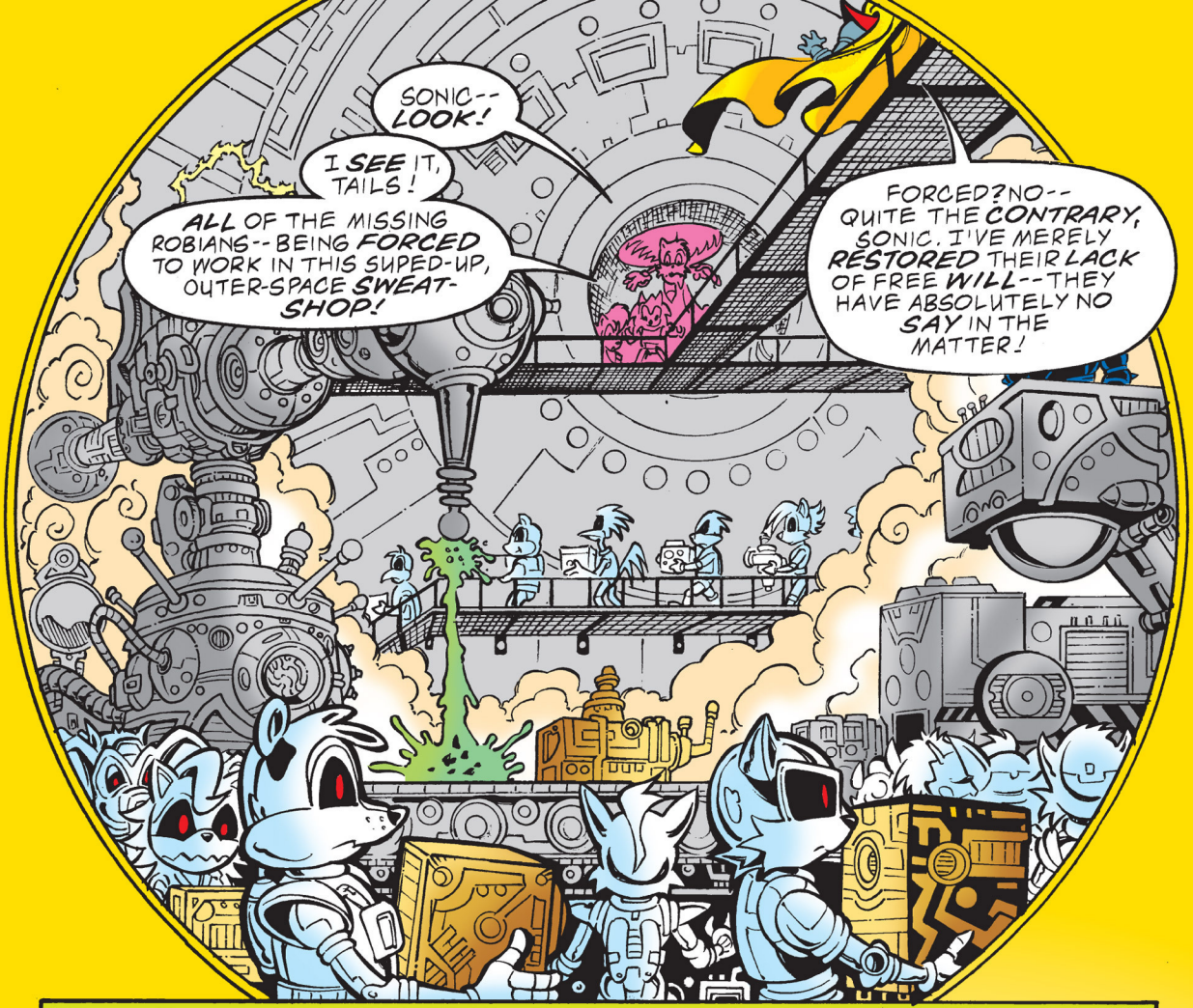

WHAT THE HECK IS THAT?!
NICOLE--CAN YOU GIVE US A STATUS REPORT?
Yes, Princess--the EIGHT orbiting satellites have apparently JOINED together to form a SPACE-PLATFORM of some type.
BUT WHAT'S WITH ALL OF THIS--Yech--TRASH?
The DEBRIS consists mainly of CHEMICAL WASTE and METAL DEBRIS. There will be a thirty-second WINDOW--
--during which you will be able to BOARD the platform through any of several waste disposal CHUTES along its hull.
A second LONGER and you run the risk of being EXPOSED to a chemical BATH that can corrode your SPACE-SUITS.
THEN WE'D BETTER JUICE!

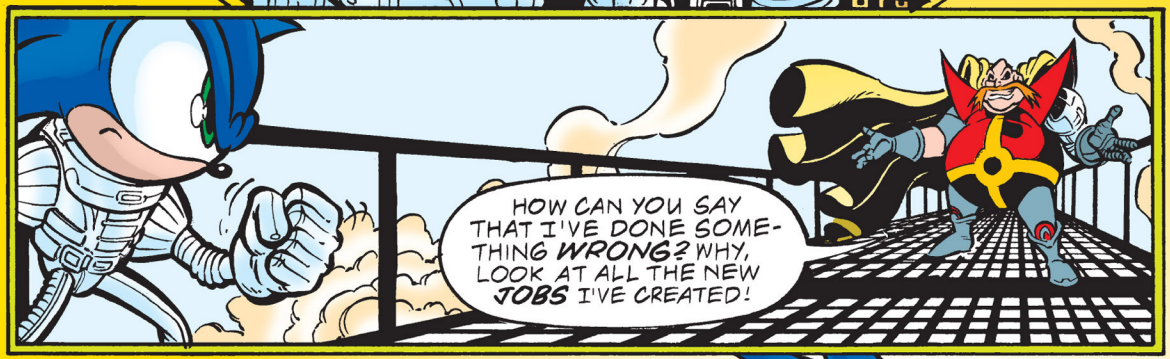

There is artificial GRAVITY within this AIR-LOCK, as well as OXYGEN, which will allow you to STAND as well as--
Whew-- BREATHE!
WHAT SHALL WE BE DOING NOW ZAT WE HAVE ARRIVED?
SIMPLE, ANTOINE-- WE'RE GONNA FIND SNIVELY AND THEN HE'S GONNA TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED TO MY FAMILY!
SURRENDER--
--AND-PREPARE-FOR-COMPLETE-ROBOTIZATION.
HEADS UP, EVERYBODY! I SMELL SWAT-BOTS!
10

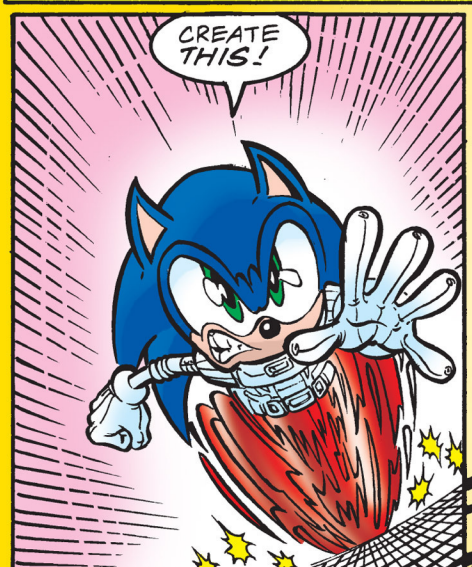

AND YOU KNOW WHAT WE DO TO SWAT-BOTS, DON'T YOU?
KLOP
KER-CHOP
BZZZZZ
LIKE I HAD TO ASK?
ZEE MELEE--=Whew=I AM QUITE GLAD SHE EEZ OVER AS SOON AS SHE BEGAN.
THOOM THOOM THOOM
SURRENDER--
--AND-PREPARE-FOR-COMPLETE-ROBOTIZATION.
MORE BIGGER SWAT-BOTS?!
ENOUGH--I THINK THEY KNOW THE DRILL...
...DON'T YOU, FREEDOM FIGHTERS?
ROBOTNIK?!
11

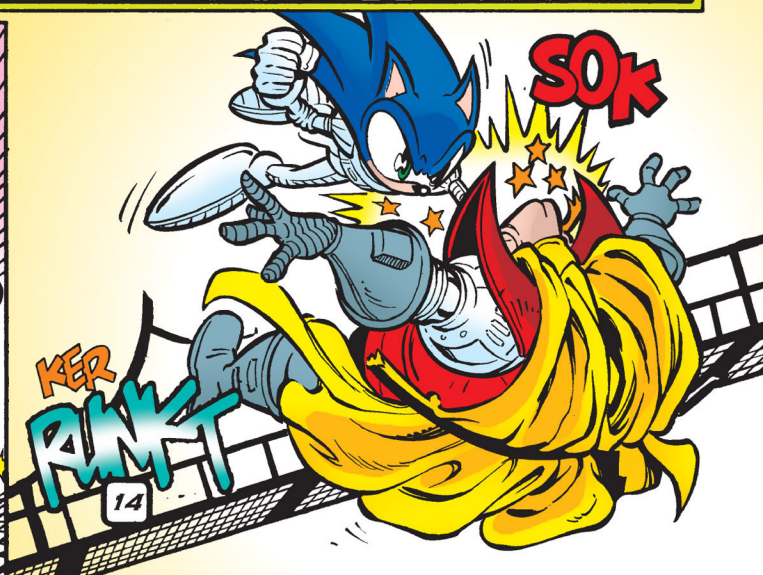
THAT'S DOCTOR ROBOTNIK TO YOU, HEDGEHOG!
AND WHILE I TRULY APOLOGIZE FOR HAVING TO CORRECT YOU TWICE WITHIN THE SPACE OF TEN SECONDS... THESE AREN'T OUTDATED SWAT-BOTS, EITHER!
THEY ARE THE SHADOW-BOTS DELTA AND GAMMA --MY PERSONAL VANGUARD!

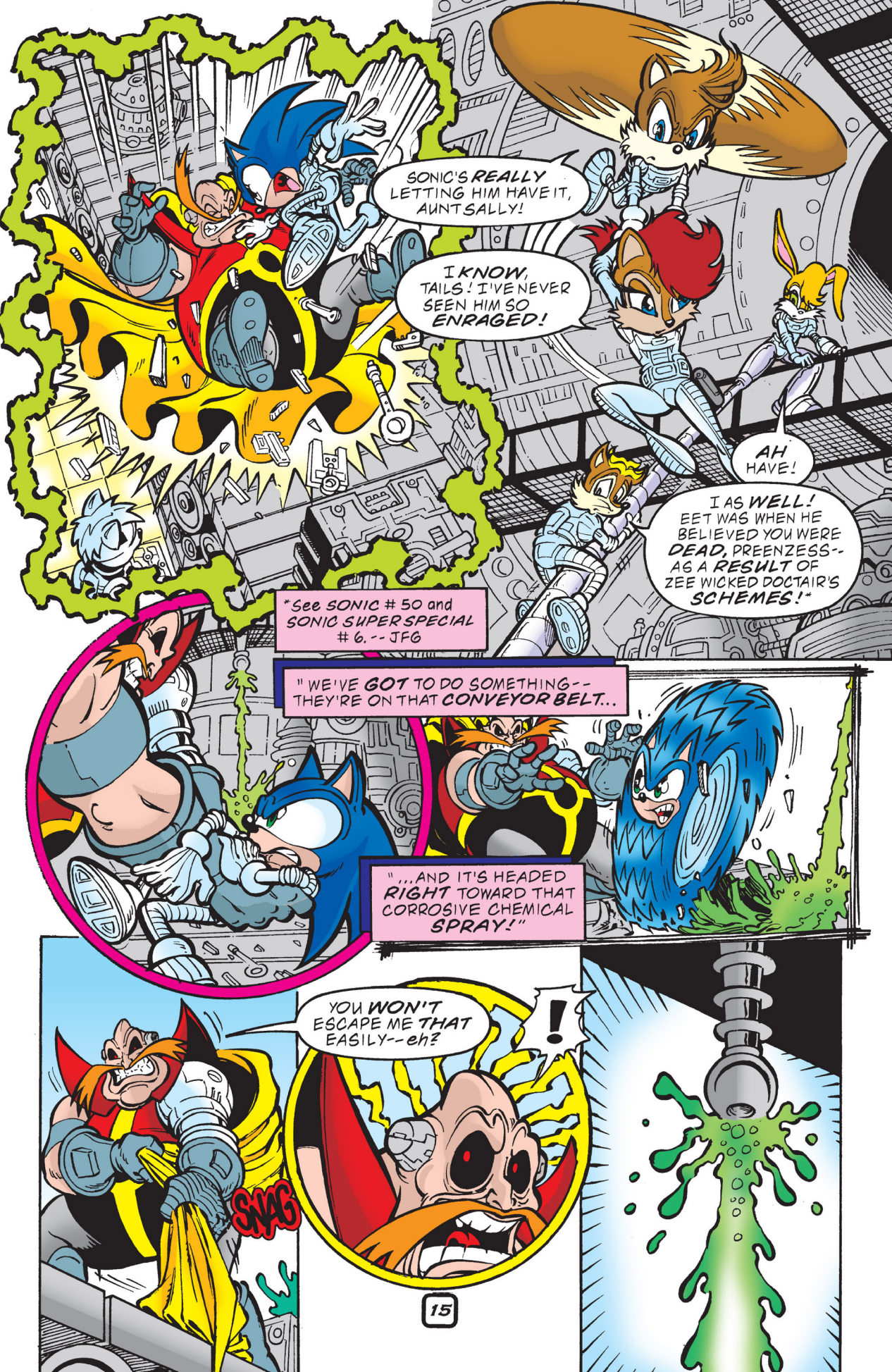

THEY'RE TOAST AND SO ARE YOU IF YOU DON'T TELL ME WHAT'S HAPPENED TO MY FAMILY AND THE OTHER ROBOTICIZED MOBIANS, RO"BUTT"NIK!
COME NOW, HEDGEHOG... CAN'T YOU AT LEAST TAKE A MOMENT TO WELCOME ME BACK FROM THE DEAD? HOW RUDE!
DIDN'T YOUR PARENTS TEACH YOU BETTER MANNERS?
WHY, YOU LOUSY--!
SMAK
UGH!
AH'LL SHO YOU MANNERS!
WHUT'S UP, DOC?
KLANK
LONG TIME NO PUNCH!
13


SONIC--LOOK!
I SEE IT, TAILS!
ALL OF THE MISSING ROBIANS--BEING FORCED TO WORK IN THIS SUPED-UP, OUTER-SPACE SWEAT-SHOP!
FORCED? NO--QUITE THE CONTRARY, SONIC, I'VE MERELY RESTORED THEIR LACK OF FREE WILL--THEY HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO SAY IN THE MATTER!

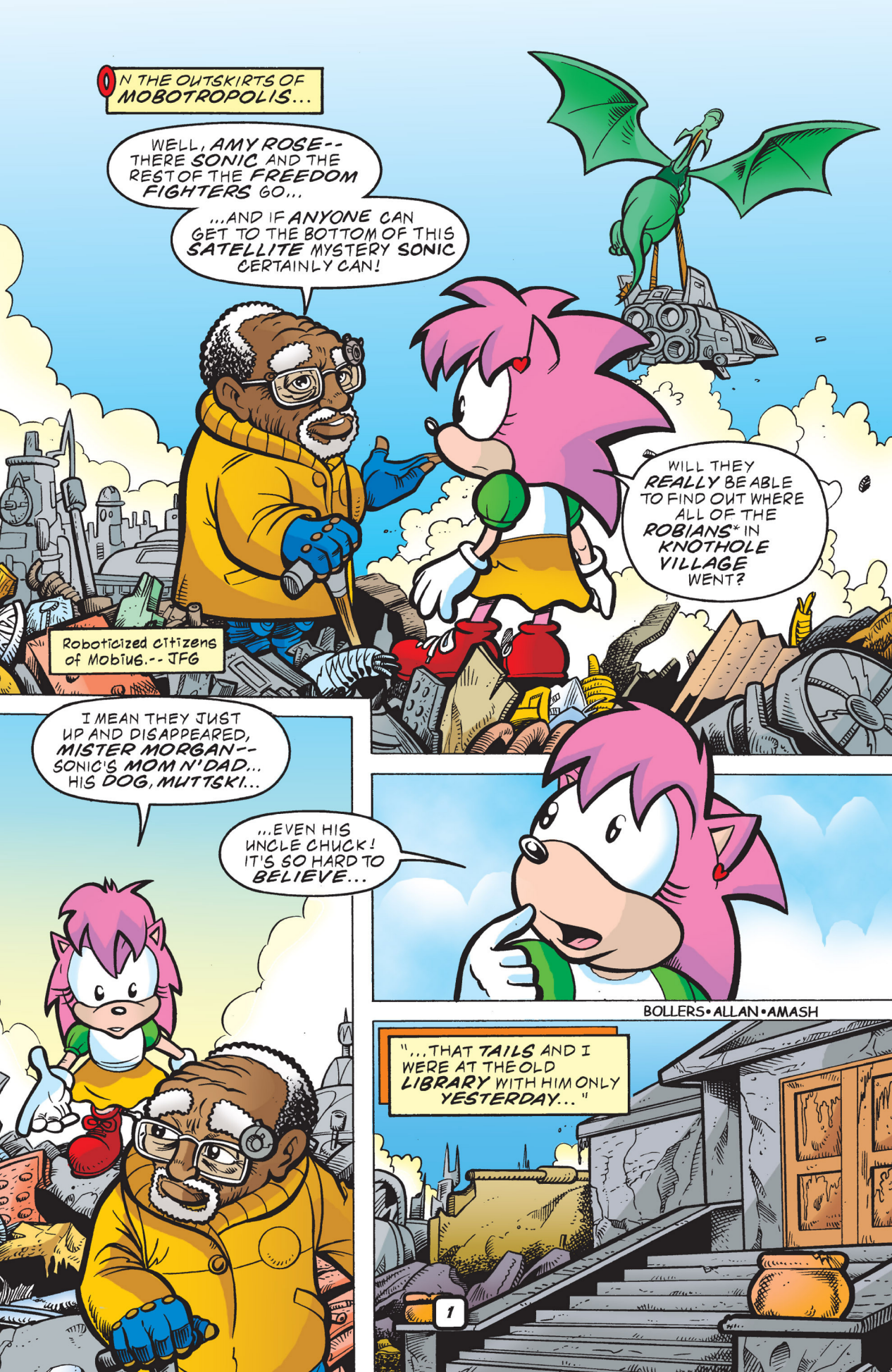

HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT I'VE DONE SOMETHING WRONG? WHY, LOOK AT ALL THE NEW JOBS I'VE CREATED!

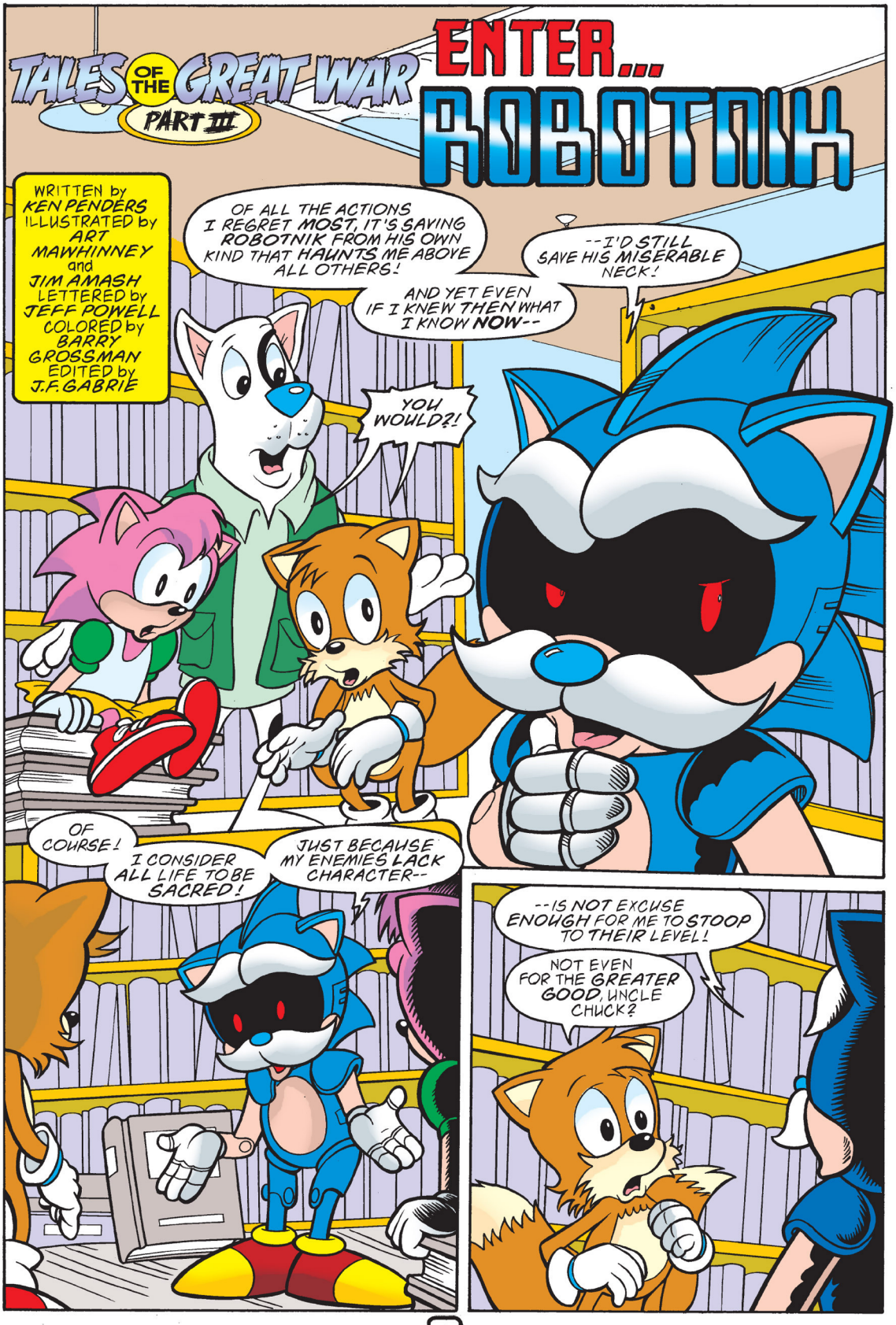

CREATE THIS!

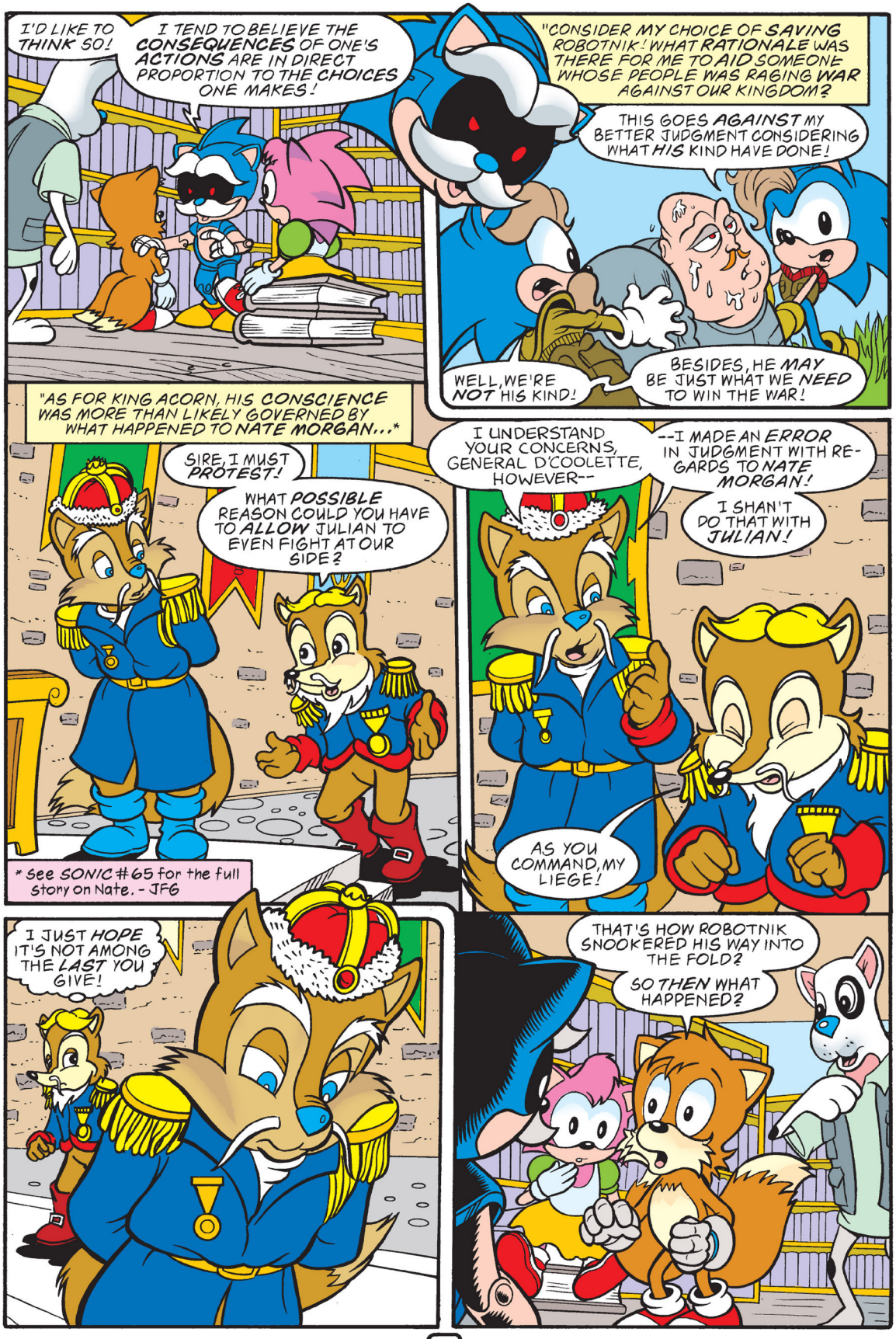

SOK
KER RUNK


SONIC'S REALLY LETTING HIM HAVE IT, AUNT SALLY!
I KNOW, TAILS! I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM SO ENRAGED!
AH HAVE!
I AS WELL! EET WAS WHEN HE BELIEVED YOU WERE DEAD, PREENZESS-- AS A RESULT OF ZEE WICKED DOCTAIR'S SCHEMES!*
*See SONIC # 50 and SONIC SUPER SPECIAL # 6. -- JFG
" WE'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING-- THEY'RE ON THAT CONVEYOR BELT...
"...AND IT'S HEADED RIGHT TOWARD THAT CORROSIVE CHEMICAL SPRAY!"
YOU WON'T ESCAPE ME THAT EASILY-- eh?
!
SNAG

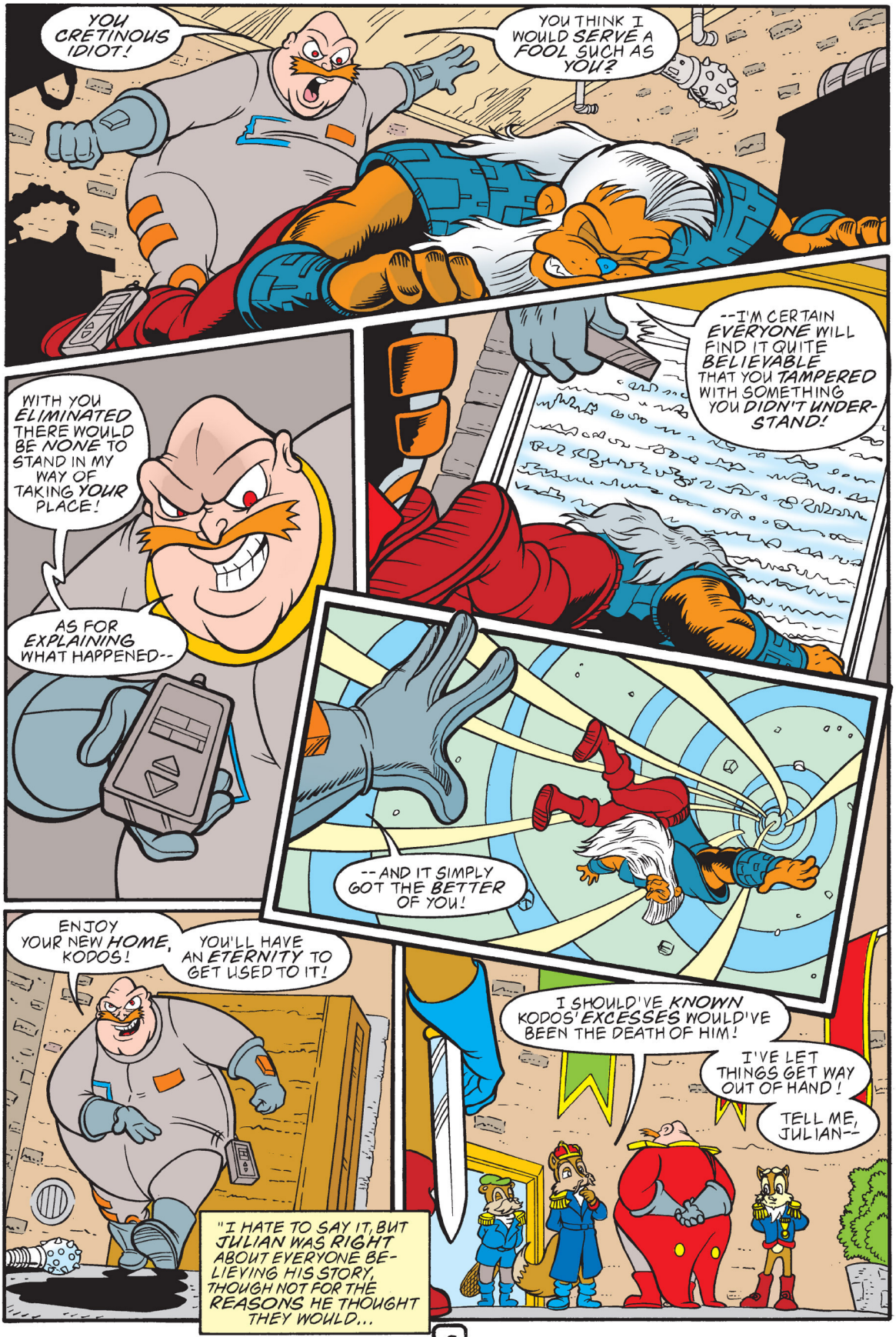
SSSSSS
HOLY SMOKES!
I DON'T BELIEVE IT! IT'S NOT ROBOTNIK! IT'S--IT'S--
NEXT ISSUE: SONIC #75,
OR AS WE LIKE TO REFER TO IT--
"THE BIG ONE!"

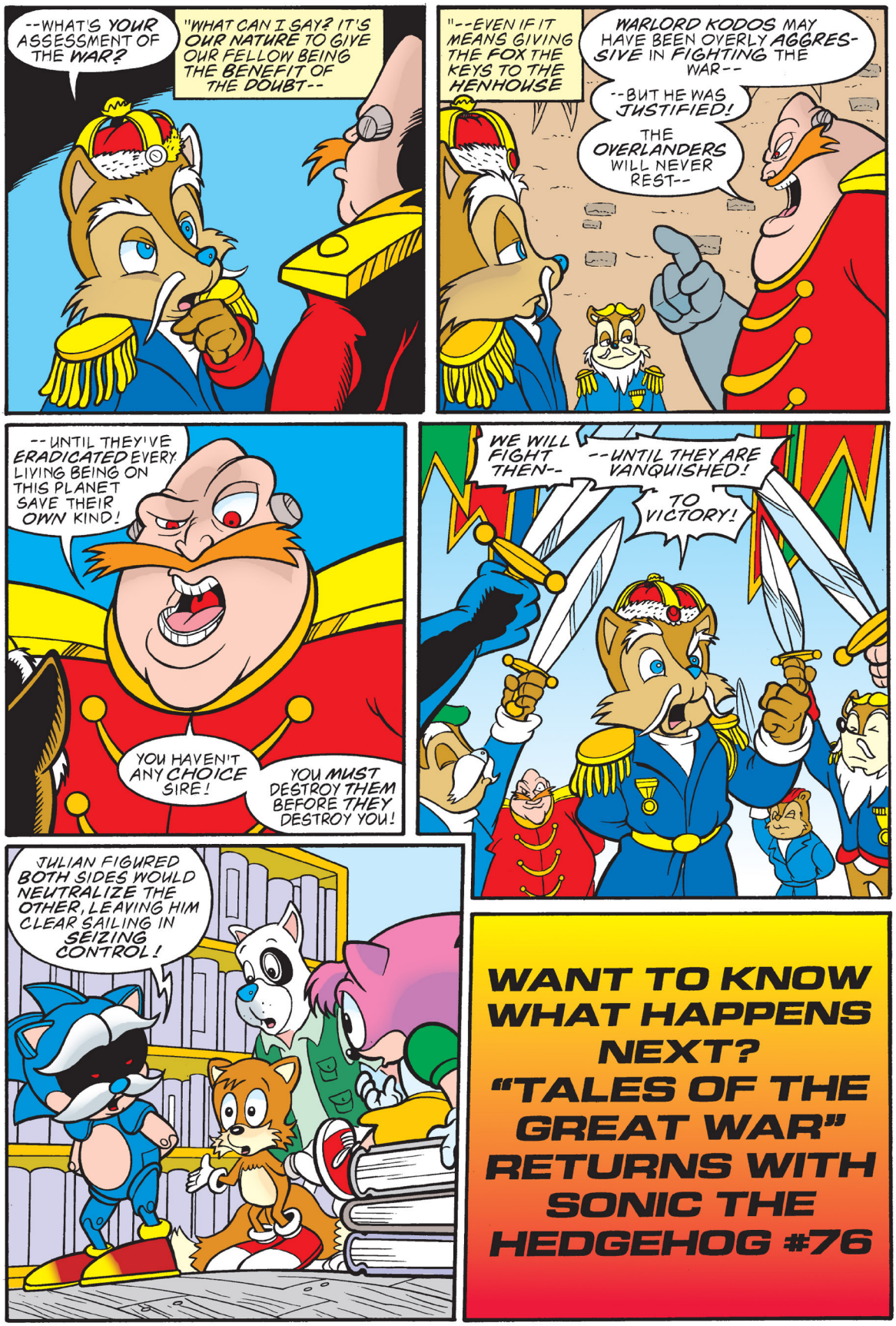

ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF MOBOTROPOLIS...
WELL, AMY ROSE-- THERE SONIC AND THE REST OF THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS GO...
...AND IF ANYONE CAN GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS SATELLITE MYSTERY SONIC CERTAINLY CAN!
WILL THEY REALLY BE ABLE TO FIND OUT WHERE ALL OF THE ROBIANS* IN KNOTHOLE VILLAGE WENT?
Roboticized citizens of Mobius.-- JFG
I MEAN THEY JUST UP AND DISAPPEARED, MISTER MORGAN-- SONIC'S MOM N'DAD... HIS DOG, MUTTSKI...
...EVEN HIS UNCLE CHUCK! IT'S SO HARD TO BELIEVE...
BOLLERS • ALLAN • AMASH
"...THAT TAILS AND I WERE AT THE OLD LIBRARY WITH HIM ONLY YESTERDAY..."
1


TALES OF THE GREAT WAR
PART III
ENTER... ROBOTNIK
WRITTEN by KEN PENDERS
ILLUSTRATED by ART MAWHINNEY and JIM AMASH
LETTERED by JEFF POWELL
COLORED by BARRY GROSSMAN
EDITED by J.F. GABRIE
OF ALL THE ACTIONS I REGRET MOST, IT'S SAVING ROBOTNIK FROM HIS OWN KIND THAT HAUNTS ME ABOVE ALL OTHERS!
AND YET EVEN IF I KNEW THEN WHAT I KNOW NOW--
--I'D STILL SAVE HIS MISERABLE NECK!
YOU WOULD?!
OF COURSE!
I CONSIDER ALL LIFE TO BE SACRED!
JUST BECAUSE MY ENEMIES LACK CHARACTER--
--IS NOT EXCUSE ENOUGH FOR ME TO STOOP TO THEIR LEVEL!
NOT EVEN FOR THE GREATER GOOD, UNCLE CHUCK?


I'D LIKE TO THINK SO!
I TEND TO BELIEVE THE CONSEQUENCES OF ONE'S ACTIONS ARE IN DIRECT PROPORTION TO THE CHOICES ONE MAKES!
"CONSIDER MY CHOICE OF SAVING ROBOTNIK! WHAT RATIONALE WAS THERE FOR ME TO AID SOMEONE WHOSE PEOPLE WAS RAGING WAR AGAINST OUR KINGDOM?
THIS GOES AGAINST MY BETTER JUDGMENT CONSIDERING WHAT HIS KIND HAVE DONE!
WELL, WE'RE NOT HIS KIND!
BESIDES, HE MAY BE JUST WHAT WE NEED TO WIN THE WAR!
"AS FOR KING ACORN, HIS CONSCIENCE WAS MORE THAN LIKELY GOVERNED BY WHAT HAPPENED TO NATE MORGAN...*
SIRE, I MUST PROTEST!
WHAT POSSIBLE REASON COULD YOU HAVE TO ALLOW JULIAN TO EVEN FIGHT AT OUR SIDE?
* see SONIC #65 for the full story on Nate. - JFG
I UNDERSTAND YOUR CONCERNS, GENERAL D'COOLETTE, HOWEVER--
--I MADE AN ERROR IN JUDGMENT WITH REGARDS TO NATE MORGAN!
I SHAN'T DO THAT WITH JULIAN!
AS YOU COMMAND, MY LIEGE!
I JUST HOPE IT'S NOT AMONG THE LAST YOU GIVE!
THAT'S HOW ROBOTNIK SNOOKERED HIS WAY INTO THE FOLD?
SO THEN WHAT HAPPENED?

"--WHEN IN REALITY KODOS WAS UNKNOWINGLY SETTING HIMSELF UP FOR THE KILL!
THIS SANCTUM IS WHERE THE FORMER MAGICIAN IXIS NAUGUS DEVELOPED SOME VERY PROMISING DEVICES!
SUCH AS THIS ONE--
--AN ATOMIC MACE!
QUITE THE REMEDY FOR A HEADACHE, EH?
A MOST IMPRESSIVE ITEM!
I GATHER YOU HAVE MORE TO SHOW!
BUT OF COURSE!
THIS IS THE PAIS DE RESISTANCE--
--THE ZONE OF SILENCE!
WITH THIS DOORWAY INTO NEVER-NEVER LAND, WE COULD DO MORE THAN SIMPLY CONQUER A KINGDOM--
--WE COULD CONQUER A PLANET!
"AND WITH THOSE WORDS--
"KODOS' FATE WAS SEALED!
WHAM


YOU CRETINOUS IDIOT!
YOU THINK I WOULD SERVE A FOOL SUCH AS YOU?
--I'M CERTAIN EVERYONE WILL FIND IT QUITE BELIEVABLE THAT YOU TAMPERED WITH SOMETHING YOU DIDN'T UNDERSTAND!
WITH YOU ELIMINATED THERE WOULD BE NONE TO STAND IN MY WAY OF TAKING YOUR PLACE!
AS FOR EXPLAINING WHAT HAPPENED--
--AND IT SIMPLY GOT THE BETTER OF YOU!
ENJOY YOUR NEW HOME, KODOS!
YOU'LL HAVE AN ETERNITY TO GET USED TO IT!
I SHOULD'VE KNOWN KODOS' EXCESSES WOULD'VE BEEN THE DEATH OF HIM!
I'VE LET THINGS GET WAY OUT OF HAND!
TELL ME, JULIAN--
"I HATE TO SAY IT, BUT JULIAN WAS RIGHT ABOUT EVERYONE BELIEVING HIS STORY, THOUGH NOT FOR THE REASONS HE THOUGHT THEY WOULD...


--WHAT'S YOUR ASSESSMENT OF THE WAR?
"WHAT CAN I SAY? IT'S OUR NATURE TO GIVE OUR FELLOW BEING THE BENEFIT OF THE DOUBT--
"--EVEN IF IT MEANS GIVING THE FOX THE KEYS TO THE HENHOUSE
WARLORD KODOS MAY HAVE BEEN OVERLY AGGRESSIVE IN FIGHTING THE WAR--
--BUT HE WAS JUSTIFIED!
THE OVERLANDERS WILL NEVER REST--
--UNTIL THEY'VE ERADICATED EVERY LIVING BEING ON THIS PLANET SAVE THEIR OWN KIND!
YOU HAVEN'T ANY CHOICE SIRE!
YOU MUST DESTROY THEM BEFORE THEY DESTROY YOU!
WE WILL FIGHT THEN--
--UNTIL THEY ARE VANQUISHED!
TO VICTORY!
JULIAN FIGURED BOTH SIDES WOULD NEUTRALIZE THE OTHER, LEAVING HIM CLEAR SAILING IN SEIZING CONTROL!

WANT TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENS NEXT? "TALES OF THE GREAT WAR" RETURNS WITH SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #76